

**Year 3 Public Description of Work for  
Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education**

**University of Washington**

**Title IX Annual Report on Sex- and Gender-Based Violence &  
Harassment**

**Relevant Rubric Area(s):** *Response (improved communication and increased transparency); Evaluation (other evaluation); Organizational Change (diverse stakeholder partnership)*

**Description of Work:**

In 2019 a group of University of Washington graduate students reached out to University leadership, including the Office of the Title IX Coordinator, seeking data and information about the outcomes of investigations and adjudication involving student respondents alleged to have engaged in sex- and gender-based violence and harassment (SGBVH). Students expressed a desire to use this information to assist them in determining whether they wanted to request investigations if and when they experienced SGBVH; students stated they wanted to better anticipate investigative outcomes in relation to the perceived time and effort required to participate in such an investigation. The Office of the Title IX Coordinator committed to gathering and properly contextualizing the requested data and, in May 2022, published UW's inaugural Title IX Annual Report on Sex- and Gender-Based Violence & Harassment. The annual report covers two fiscal years: July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021.

The report identifies three goals or primary purposes for developing the report—transparency, assessment, and engagement—which are consistent with the findings and recommendations of the 2018 NASEM report. In working with a sub-group of UW's Title IX Steering Committee, the Office of the Title IX Coordinator developed the organizational structure of the report, which contains a three-page executive summary, a nine-page section titled "Highlighted Data and Information," and 31 pages of appendices that outline UW resources for those who experience SGBVH and processes for reporting, investigating, and adjudicating SGBVH. The report also includes information about UW education and prevention work as well as leadership and policies.

To obtain the information contained in the report, the Office of the Title IX Coordinator worked with many process partners, each of whom regularly are responsible for implementing aspects of the University's prevention of and response to SGBVH. Initially, the Office of the Title IX Coordinator met with representatives of the various offices to determine what information and data was reasonably available and then requested responsive data. Based on what was provided across a decentralized system that includes three campuses, the Office of the Title IX Coordinator determined how to present data in a way that was meaningful and properly contextualized. Process partners worked with the Office of the Title IX Coordinator to review

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how data and information was presented in appendices related to each partner's work. The report included data such as:

- the number of contacts to SafeCampus, the University's violence prevention and response program;
- the number of students referred to and working with confidential advocates;
- the number of investigations involving student respondents; and
- the number of educational presentations/trainings offered and the number of folks who attended such trainings.

The investigation and adjudication data, which was the most robust of specific data provided, included:

- the numbers of investigations that opened;
- the number of times students were charged with violating specific types of SGBVH-prohibited contact;
- how each opened investigation concluded;
- the frequency with which student respondents were found responsible (and for what conduct code violations);
- the number of times specific sanctions were imposed; and
- the number of appeals requested as well as how each appeal was resolved.

Along with data, the appendices included descriptions of each office's role and services. From the data and information in the appendices, the Office of the Title IX Coordinator identified the key information to include in the Highlighted Data and Information section and further narrowed that to create the executive summary. Creating an executive summary was deemed instrumental by members of the Title IX Steering Committee to be responsive to the reality that not all community members could parse through the more-detailed appendices.

When the report was published, the Office of the Title IX Coordinator partnered with the UW's Marketing and Communications Office to notify the UW community of the report, which was posted online. The partners who provided data and information were first provided with the complete report; then, the report was rolled out to the UW Executive Office (including president and provost), Title IX Steering Committee members, the Board of Deans and Chancellors, and additional leadership on each of the three campuses. Information about the report and opportunities for community engagement were included in UW student newsletters, UW's daily e-newsletters, and the weekly e-newsletter for faculty and staff.

The Office of the Title IX Coordinator invited all UW students, staff, and faculty to attend one of two zoom-based Community Conversations after the report was published. The conversations included a brief presentation highlighting the goals of the report, the values informing the Office of the Title IX Coordinator's work, and the data contained in the report.

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Participants were invited to ask questions about the report and its implications and also to share observations about the report.

The community conversations comprised the first opportunity for engagement (one of the goals/primary purposes for creating the report) with the UW community. The Office of the Title IX Coordinator will use incoming feedback continually to inform improvements in prevention and response work as well as to develop a streamlined, standardized system to gather data. The community's feedback regarding the report, together with subsequent years of data and information, will allow for continued evaluation of trends and patterns, indicating areas where adjustments are needed to UW's system of prevention of and response to SGBVH.

The Office of the Title IX Coordinator will continue to publish the report on a biennial basis. The next report will expand upon the first report, in that it will include data and information about investigations and adjudications in which staff and faculty were alleged to have violated UW policies prohibiting SGBVH. Data regarding faculty and staff investigations and any implemented sanctions is even more decentralized than that involving students, so the Office of the Title IX Coordinator will be working over the next year with human resource consultants, the Office of Academic Personnel, and University Complaint Investigation and Resolution Office (UCIRO) investigators to gather and contextualize this data in addition to continuing to work with partners who provided student-focused data for the first report.

**Website for further information (if applicable):**

[UW Title IX Annual Report on Sex- and Gender-Based Violence & Harassment](#)

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